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Pamela A, Mingo

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October 7, 2004

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Banville et. al

Art Unit: 1621

Application No.: 09/848,694

Examiner: S. Kumar

Filed: May 3, 2001

For: Alpha-Amino, -Thio, -Oxo Substituted Ketones as Phopholipase Inhibitors

MAIL STOP: Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY AND AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116 Sir:

This Reply and Amendment is a timely response to a Final Rejection dated July 8, 2004 having a three-month shortened statutory period for response expiring October 8, 2004. In Examiner's first Office Action dated January 5, 2004, Claims 1-4 and 9 were rejected and Claims 7 and 8 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicants canceled Claims 5,6, and 8, amended Claims 1-3, 7, and 9, and added Claims 11, 12, and 13. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-entitled application in light of the following amendments and remarks. Applicants note that a NOTICE OF APPEAL has been filed in concert with the present Reply and Amendment.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 18 of this paper.

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